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a unanimous conclusion has been reached, should receive careful and painstaking attention before being accepted as settled.

New Linguistic and Theological Journals.—There will be found elsewhere announcements of two new Oriental journals, *Literatur-Blatt fuer Orientalische Philologie*, edited by Prof. Dr. Ernst Kuhn in Muenchen, and *Zeitschrift fuer Keilschriftforschung und verwandte Gediete*, edited by Carl Bezold and Fritz Hommel with the assistance of A. Amiaud and E. Barbelon in Paris, G. Lyon in Cambridge, Mass., and Theo. G. Pinches in London. The aim of the editors is, in both cases, a most commendable one. It is greatly to be desired that they shall receive the hearty support of all who are either directly or indirectly interested in such work. There has also recently appeared in Holland a new theological journal, which will be managed in the interests of conservative theology, as opposed to the *Theo. Tijdschrift*. There is certainly a field for this journal. "Dutch" and "Rationalistic," so far as criticism is concerned, have come to be almost synonymous terms. May we not now hope for something better from Holland?

➤BOOK NOTICES.◀

[All publications received, which relate directly or indirectly to the Old Testament, will be promptly noticed under this head. Attention will not be confined to new books; but notices will be given, so far as possible, of such old books, in this department of study, as may be of general interest to pastors and students.]

A COMMENTARY ON THE PSALMS.*

This commentary, based upon one issued some years ago by the same author, is intended, as the title-page indicates, for students of Hebrew, and for clergymen. The writer emphasizes the *theology* of the Psalms. He is not one of those who see Christ in every verse, nor does he on the other hand fail altogether to find a Messianic element. He wisely takes a middle ground. The principle underlying his work is, in his own words: "A desire to elicit what may be termed the natural sense of a Psalm, such as with reference to the circumstances under which it was written, so far as they can be ascertained, seems most probable, and with that sense to remain content." In determining whether or not a given Psalm is Messianic, the writer depends upon four sources of information: (1) the testimony of the Jewish Church; (2) that of the Christian Church; (3) that of the New Testament; (4) the internal evidence of the Psalm itself. Of these the last is regarded as the most important. In speaking of the various aids of which he has made use, he mentions particularly the assistance derived from the cognate languages. On this point he remarks: "It is well known that there is a great number of words in the Hebrew of the Old Testament, which occur only once, and that there are many others which are met with only twice or three times. How is the sense of such words to be determined? To find out the meaning of a word, it is necessary to refer it to a root, and if that root does not exist in Hebrew, there remains only the

* *A Commentary on the Psalms.* By GEORGE PHILLIPS, D. D., President Queens College, Cambridge, 1872. London: F. Norgate. U. S.: *Old Testament Book Exchange*, Morgan Park, Ill. 2 vols. 8vo., pp. 410, 450; Price \$6.00.